

REMARKS

Claims 17-26 are rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Claims 17 and 22 are amended. Claims 18-21 and 23-26 are canceled. The subject matter that was not explicitly supported in the specification has been removed from the remaining claims by amendment.

Claims 17-26 are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 17 and 22 are amended. Claims 18-21 and 23-26 are canceled. The subject matter that was not explicitly supported in the specification has been removed from the remaining claims by amendment.

Claims 17, 19, 22, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McIntyre (US 2003/0063305) in view of Grieve et al. (US 2003/0149756), in view of McGowan et al. (US 2005/0028165) and further in view of Yuh et al. (US 7,093,003).

Claims 17 and 22 are independent. Claim 19 is dependent on claim 17. Claim 24 is dependent on claim 22. Claims 17 and 22 are amended herein to comprise an element that is not taught in the combination of McIntyre, Grieve, McGowan et al and Yuh et al. Claims 17 and 22 comprise the limitation that the firmware configuration upload and download processes are effected by an application residing solely on the web-based administration utility and the download device. This element is not taught in the cited combination of prior art. Claims 19 and 24 are dependent on amended claims, comprise the amended elements by dependence and are patentable for the reasons stated above in relation to the independent claims.

Claims 18, 20, 21, 23, 25, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McIntyre (US 2003/0063305) in view of Grieve et al. (US 2003/0149756), in view of McGowan et al. (US 2005/0028165), in view of Yuh et al. (US 7,093,003), and further in view of Woodard et al. (US 2002/0104080).

Claims 18, 20, 21, 23, 25 and 26 are canceled.

New claim 27 is presented to capture an embodiment in which converted configuration data is combined with the new firmware structure after uploading to the firmware device.

In light of the amendments and arguments presented above, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw these rejections and proceed with allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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